

Trial Court Budget Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2014



Attendance – Members Present

The Honorable Mark Mahon, Chair	The Honorable Belvin Perry, Jr.
The Honorable Robert Roundtree, Vice Chair	Ms. Kathy Pugh
The Honorable Catherine Brunson	The Honorable Margaret Steinbeck
The Honorable Ronald Ficarrotta	Ms. Robin Wright
Mr. Tom Genung	The Honorable Robert Hilliard
Ms. Sandra Lonergan	Mr. Grant Slayden
The Honorable Thomas McGrady	The Honorable Elijah Smiley
The Honorable Wayne Miller	The Honorable John Stargel
The Honorable Debra Nelson	The Honorable Patricia Thomas
The Honorable Gregory Parker	Mr. Mark Weinberg

Attendance – Members Absent

Mr. Walt Smith	The Honorable Diana Moreland
The Honorable Bertila Soto	The Honorable Jeffrey Colbath

Special Note: It is recommended that these minutes be used in conjunction with the meeting materials.

Judge Mahon welcomed members and called the Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC) meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Agenda Item I: Special Pay Issue for Court Employees: Consideration of Whether and How to Address Child Support Hearing Officers

Theresa Westerfield presented the Special Pay Issue relating to the consideration of whether and how to address the Child Support Hearing Officer. Because child support hearing officers are federally funded, the TCBC did not address this class of positions or their related administrative positions as part of the special pay issue recommendation at the June 20, 2014 meeting. There was no indication that Department of Revenue (DOR) would consider providing the necessary funding due to the fiscally conservation approaches the DOR had taken in recent years. However, DOR reached out to the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA) asking what resources would be needed to implement the pay issue.

Theresa Westerfield presented three options for consideration to the commission. Judge Mahon stated the Executive Committee met prior to the meeting and reviewed all the options. He stated that another option had been proposed as an amended Option 2A. The proposed amended Option 2A utilizes the "true up" line item in the plan (\$57,510) and the additional balance provided by corrections and a July 1, 2014, update to the Law Clerks and Judicial Assistants line item (\$53,984.12) to fund an increase to the Child Support Hearing Officers, not utilizing the circuit specific retention and recruitment line item (\$43,074.46). Where the Option 2 proposed the new minimums increase to 95% of magistrates and magistrates' administrative secretaries, the Option 2A would fund these positions at slightly less than the 95% due to not using any discretionary money from the circuits. Judge Mahon explained the true up funds is the money set aside for any technical changes that needed to occur as the plan was finalized.

Judge Roundtree made a motion to approve amended Option 2A as presented by Judge Mahon. Judge Steinbeck seconded and the motion passed with four members opposed.

Other Business

Next TCBC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 26, 2014 in Orlando.

Adjournment

With no other business before the commission, the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.